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Critter campaign

Health/Science

Page 5

Boozers ride free

Campus News

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Janet Jackson's back

A&E

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Page 6

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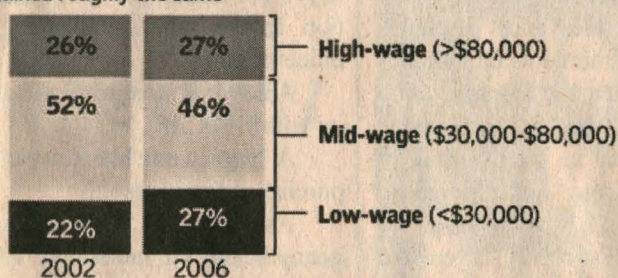
Monday, March 10, 2008

Vol. 41 Issue 14

Funding falls short

Middle-wage jobs decline

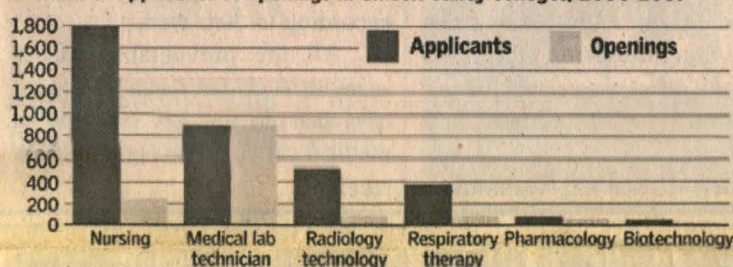
The number of mid-wage jobs in Silicon Valley has been shrinking in recent years, while the number of low-wage jobs has increased. High-paid jobs remained roughly the same.



Health care training scarce

The number of applicants for some critical training programs at Silicon Valley community colleges greatly exceeds the number of seats available.

Number of applicants to openings in Silicon Valley colleges, 2006-2007



Source: JointVenture: Silicon Valley Network, Silicon Valley Community Foundation
MERCURY NEWS

Courtesy of siliconvalley.com

With the number of mid-wage jobs decreasing and high-wage jobs staying the same, college graduates are faced with the decision of a low-wage job or no job at all.

Elva Casas
Staff Writer

Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger proposed a \$312.9 million cut to the California State University budget approved by the CSU Board of Trustees for the 2008/09 fiscal year, according to the CSU website.

Higher education funding has fallen drastically over the last 30 years, according to the California Faculty Association (CFA) website.

"Tuition is high enough as it is, and decreasing the amount of financial aid will only lower students' interest in higher education," CSUSB sophomore Sarah Gutierrez said.

The CSU makes up 65 percent of California's bachelor degrees in business.

It also makes up 52 percent in agricultural business and agricultural engineering, and 45 percent in computer and electronic engineering.

neering.

The CSU also educates the professionals needed to keep the state running.

Altogether, about half the bachelor degrees and a third of the master's degrees awarded each year in California are from the CSU, according to senate.gov.

The number of mid-wage jobs in Silicon Valley have shrunk in recent years — from 603,350 in 2002 to 541,300 in 2006. In 2002, mid-wage jobs comprised 52 percent of total jobs and 46 percent by 2006.

The percentage of higher-wage jobs remained relatively stable at 26 percent and 27 percent, while lower-wage jobs grew in share from 22 percent to 27 percent of the workforce over the four-year period, according to the Silicon Valley Community Foundation.

Mid-wage occupational
Continued on Pg. 2

"Higher education funding has fallen drastically over the last 30 years..."



Courtesy of James Smart

From left to right: Daniel Otianga, Kevin Manning, Nicholas Gibson, Phillip Ince, Malori Merki, Priscilla Cooper, Elizabeth Saucedo, Ken Dillard and Nick DeLeon.

Chronicle wins at media convention

Ken Dillard

Copy Editor/Staff Writer

As the train rattled and creaked down the track towards Oakland, the exhausted but satisfied look in my colleagues' eyes spoke volumes about our weekend in San Francisco.

Just four days before, the train had been creaking and rattling away from Oakland, towards an opportunity to learn and experience in San Francisco. Then, our eyes were eager with excitement and anticipation.

The Associated Collegiate Press' (ACP) National College Media Convention took place from Feb. 28 through March 2 at the Holiday Inn Golden Gate in San Francisco California.

Ten Coyote Chronicle editors attended the convention to take part in seminars, critiques and awards ceremonies at the lavish hotel.

The experience was more than

worthwhile — it was an amazing opportunity that has left us proud of our accomplishments and eager to work at improving our publication in any and every way possible.

On the last day of the convention, the ACP and the California College Media Association gathered and distributed more than 300 awards to 22 publications from four-year colleges and universities across the state.

More than 900 entries were scrutinized in more than 75 categories including editorial content, photos, design and advertising content.

The Chronicle was awarded a first-place prize for Best Special Section for a special on the wildfires that swept through the county last quarter, and a third place award for Best News-Page Design.

"I think the award is a testament to the talent in our newsroom and the quality of instruction,"

Continued on Pg. 3



Focus on children

Magdalen Lumpkin
Staff Writer

More than 26,000 children die each day before their fifth birthday, according to UNICEF's State of the World's Children Report 2008.

The State of the World's Children 2008 Report was released Jan. 22, 2008.

The report states what needs to be done for children with the need to increase access for treatments and other preventions that

aid children in need.

In sub-Saharan Africa, most of the deaths are caused by pneumonia, diarrhea, malaria and HIV/AIDS.

HIV has infected 90 percent of the children living in sub-Saharan Africa.

Africa has less than one quarter of the world's children.

Primary care is given to households who fall under the poverty line in sub-Saharan Africa.

The global campaign "Measles Initiative" decreased the deaths of children who had the measles by 90 percent.

HIV has infected 90 percent of the children living in sub-Saharan Africa, according to unaids.org.

The joint United Nations program on HIV/AIDS, UNAIDS, is just one co-sponsor that works

Continued on Pg. 2

Minority incarceration increases

Stephanie Salvador
Staff Writer

The United States prison system incarcerates more adults than any other country in the world.

One percent of the American population is currently serving a prison sentence, according to a recent study by the Pew Charitable Trusts.

According to the most recent data released from the Bureau of Justice statistics, one in every 136 white males are behind bars compared to one in every 54 Latino males and one in every 21 African-American males.

The female population in the U.S. prison system is slowly growing as time progresses, although it still does not equal that of males.

However, minority women are the majority group in the prison system.

Specifically, one in every 1,064 white women is behind bars, compared with one in every 658 Latino women and one in every

279 African-American women.

An increase in prison inmates is not necessarily related to an increase in crimes, the Pew report suggested.

The report states that the inmate prison population flows principally from a wave of policy choices that are sending more law-breakers to prison and, through the popular 'three-strikes' measures and other sentencing enhancements, keeping them there longer.

The drug laws, for example, are designed to target people who use 'cheap drugs' such as crack cocaine.

"Chemically, powder cocaine is the same thing, yet you have to have 500 times more powder cocaine than crack cocaine to receive the same sentence which is clearly targeted at people of color," CSUSB sociologist professor Mary Teixeira said.

According to the report,

African-Americans are more likely to be arrested because law enforcement is centered in those communities.

"In East Los Angeles, the community is predominately Hispanic, while in Compton the community is predominately African-American.

"There are many arrests that take place in those communities because there is more police patrol in poorer communities," said CSUSB Police Officer Manuel Castro.

The report also highlighted the fiscal impact of such a growing institution.

The U.S. spent more than \$44 billion on corrections in 2007 compared with \$10.6 billion in 1987.

Castro became accustomed to watching inmates being set free before their sentence was up, due

to overcrowding and a shortage of funds.

"It was like watching a revolving door to see that the same inmates come in and out of the prison system for the same offenses," Castro said.

Billions of dollars are spent every year to incarcerate individuals who would be better off either under community supervision or in a public health treatment program, the report pointed out.

"Many of the crimes committed are fueled by drug abuse and drug addiction. There are no rehab clinics for those in poverty. We see celebrity rehab, but young minorities are put in jail for essentially committing the same crime," said Teixeira.

Young African-Americans and Latinos are the fastest growing prison population according to the Bureau of justice statistics.

Teixeira credits this to the fast-growing gap between the elite upper class and those at the poverty level.



Viet Nguyen/Chronicle

One percent of the American population is currently serving a prison sentence.



Elsa Escarcega/Chronicle

The bill would protect any employee from being dismissed or otherwise retaliated against for acting to protect a student's speech.

Bill protects freedom of speech

Elsa Escarcega
Staff Writer

Senator Leland Yee presented Bill 1370 at the National College Newspaper Convention in San Francisco.

If passed into law, the bill will protect college and high school teachers from retaliation by administrators for protecting student's speech.

Senator Yee's efforts to protect free speech for students and teachers gave him the Champion of Journalism Education Award by the California Journalism Education Coalition.

Senate Bill 1370 comes from a law passed in 2006, also written by Yee, that prohibits censorship by administrators to students for participating in speech or press activities.

This is crucial at a time when a national study by the Knight Foundation, The Future of the First Amendment, shows that the average high school student either knows little about the First Amendment or is hostile to many of its basic guarantees.

"Senator Yee's support will help keep appreciation of the value of free speech and expression alive in California schools," Steve O'Donoghue Director of the California Scholastic Journalism

Initiative said.

The bill would protect any employee of being dismissed, suspended, disciplined, reassigned, transferred, or otherwise retaliated against for acting to protect a student's speech.

The bill is expected to pass the State Legislature and be signed by the Governor.

If both of these actions take place as scheduled, the bill will be considered by the Senate sometime in March.

"California has always led the way in making sure true freedom of the press is alive and well on our campuses.

"Allowing a school administration to censor in any way is contrary to the democratic process and the ability of a student newspaper to serve as the watchdog and bring sunshine to the actions of school administrators," Yee said

After the 2006 law passed, several journalism advisors were punished or resigned for protecting student's speech.

"It is quite disheartening to hear, that after we specifically prohibited prior restraint by administrators, that some are engaging in this type of nefarious activity and even firing quality teachers because of content in the student newspaper," Yee said.

In Nov. 2006, Darryl Adams, a

Los Angeles School District newspaper advisor and basketball coach, was fired for refusing to remove a student editorial that criticized random searches on campus.

"I don't see a lot of change in college newspapers because they don't have a lot of problems," California State University, Fullerton professor of journalism Tom Clanin said.

"It will be a lot better for high school because there will be less fear about what the students report," Clanin added.

"And it will be more involvement in covering the community around the schools," Clanin added.

"Since administrators are unable by law to exercise prior

restraint with regard to a student publication, they lean on advisers to do what they legally cannot," said Jim Ewert, legal counsel for the California Newspaper Publisher's Association.

"Hopefully what is happening at most student newspapers is a free expression of ideas, and newspapers that are not being censored are not going to change things," said Sen. Yee's spokesperson Adam J. Keigwin.

"Obviously there have been examples throughout the state where administrators have tried to restrain content and have disciplined advisors for the newspaper content on those campuses.

Absolutely we expect this new law to change things," Keigwin added.

Continued:

Jobs in steady decline

growth between 2002 and 2006 was greatest for electricians, increasing by 2,200, and plumbers, increasing by more than 1,400 people.

Medical assistants, biological technicians and computer support specialists each expanded their numbers by about 1,000 in Silicon Valley.

However, declining mid-wage occupations include general support jobs — such as secretaries, general office clerks, customer service representatives, electrical engineering technicians and semiconductor processors, according to the Silicon Valley Community Foundation.

The U.S. Department of Labor projected that 25 million

workers will retire in the next 10 years and a larger number in the following decade.

In California, 3 million workers will retire by 2018, and the number of retirees in Silicon Valley will be close to 300,000.

One-third of city employees in San Jose will be eligible for retirement by the end of the decade, and the city of Palo Alto has reported that it stands to lose a wave of top managers retiring by summer of 2008.

In San Mateo County, the average age of county employees is 44.7, and currently 18 percent of county workers are over the age of 50 and eligible for retirement, according to the Silicon Valley Community Foundation.

Continued:

World's children report

with UNICEF in child survival.

The State of the World's Children 2008 Report includes political commitments on continuum health care, the harmonization of global health programs, improvements in quality and of health systems and increased finance.

UNICEF's report is created with two other organizations: the World Health Organization (WHO) and the World Bank.

The organization has been around for more than 60 years.

They serve over 150 countries by providing lifesaving things like nutrition, clean water, education, protection and emergency response.

Their lifesaving techniques

save more lives of children than any other humanitarian organization in the world, according to unicefusa.org.


A dollar is stretched to its limits with UNICEF.

A large wool blanket can be purchased for \$3.

At the cost of \$244, an emergency health kit can supply 1,000 people with basic drugs and equipment.

When donations come in from all classes of society, UNICEF takes advantage of every amount, according to their website.


All the preventable causes seem in such far reach for countries that do not get the type of medical care that the United States receives.



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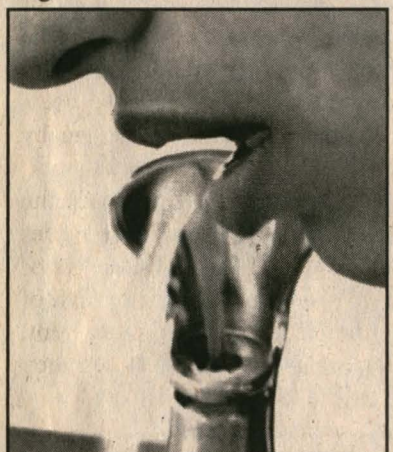
The Chronicle reserves the right to edit all editorials submitted to the paper.

Safe drinking water for children

Yahaira Hernandez
Staff Writer

UNICEF's new tap project will provide safe drinking water for children around the world.

The lack of clean and accessible drinking water is the second largest worldwide killer of children under five, according to the UNICEF website.



Yahaira Hernandez/Chronicle
Safe drinking water is a luxury not every child enjoys.

"A nationwide effort is being launched around World Water Day called the Tap Project, a campaign that celebrates the clean and accessible drinking water available as an every day privilege to millions, while helping UNICEF provide safe drinking water for children around the world," UNICEF's web site stated.

The Tap Project will take place nationally during World Water Week, beginning Sun., March 16 and culminating on March 22, the United Nations World Water Day.

"Over the past 15 years, more than one billion people gained access to improved drinking water and sanitation facilities. UNICEF's goal is to reduce by half the number of people without sustainable access to safe water and basic sanitation by 2015" as stated in the tap project web site.

UNICEF's fund-raising plan calls for participating restaurant owners to charge \$1 for the tap water they normally give to patrons for free, according to UNICEF's website.

The funds collected will be allocated to the countries and areas UNICEF has identified as most in need.

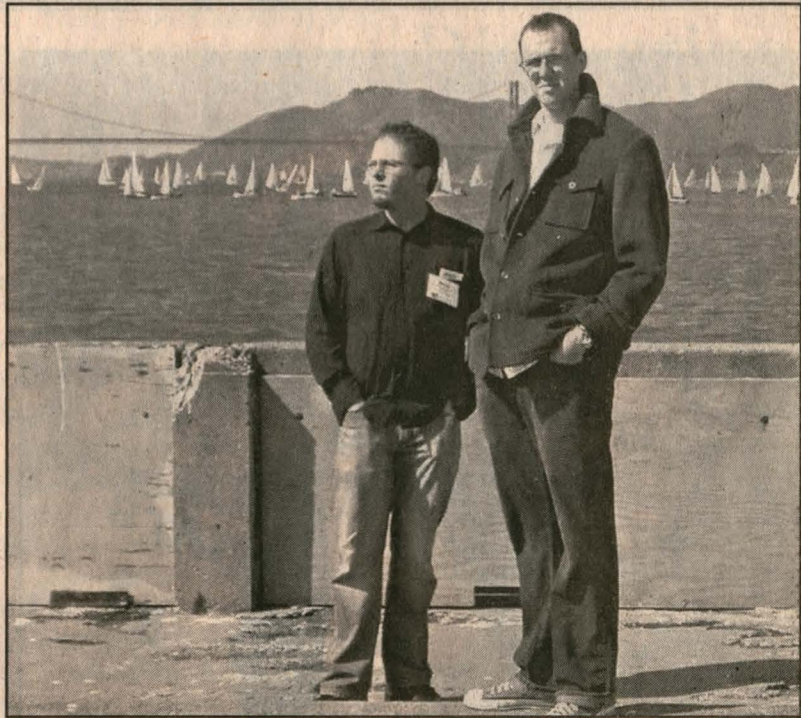
To become a Tap Project volunteer and to help recruit restaurants in your area, you can visit the tap project web site and register. Volunteers can also make a tax-deductible donation online with a minimum of \$5.

"I completely ignored that there are people around the world who don't have access to safe drinking water. I never heard about this before," said Hector Erami, a restaurant owner from the Inland Empire.

"I will definitely get more informed on how to become part of UNICEF's new tap project to help provide safe drinking water for children around the world, since I believe that drinking water should be accessible to all" Hector Erami said.

"I consider that by me encouraging my customers to pay one-dollar for tap water that will be usually given for free would give children around the world the benefits of having access to safe drinking water like all of us," Erami added.

In December of 1992, the United Nations General Assembly declared March 22 of each year World Day for Water. Countries were invited to devote the day to concrete activities such as the promotion of public awareness, conferences, round tables, seminars and expositions related to the conservation and development of water resources.



Ken Dillard/Chronicle

Muti-Cultural editor Kevin Manning and Arts and Entertainment editor Phillip Ince enjoy some of the culture that San Francisco has to offer.

Continued:

Chronicle recognition

said Executive Editor Daniel Otianga. "We look forward to winning more awards."

"There is nothing like a pat on the back that instills confidence and dedication," said Jim Smart, the Chronicle's faculty-advisor. "It was a highlight moment of our trip to sit in a room filled with several hundred student-journalists from California and see our students honored for their performance."

In addition to the award ceremony, the convention offered many seminars and keynote addresses from experienced and successful professionals in the field of journalism.

Published authors, successful editors and freelance writers from all fields of the press gave talks on

writing, editing, photography, design and production. Every seminar was worthwhile.

Each day of the convention, scheduled activities ended early enough to give us all ample time to soak up the beautiful scenery and diverse culture of San Francisco.

"I love San Francisco. It's awesome," said Multi-Cultural editor Kevin Manning. "You just step outside the door and there's so much to do."

Cultural experiences like eating amazingly fresh sushi in Chinatown, buying obscure CDs at Amoeba Records at Haight-Ashbury and browsing the shelves at City Lights Bookstore downtown are memories that we will carry forever.

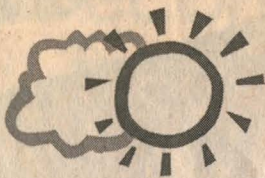
5-day forecast

Monday:



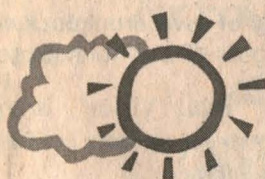
Mostly sunny, with a high near 74°F and a low around 51°F.

Tuesday:



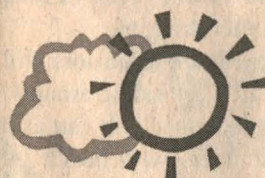
Mostly sunny, with a high near 72°F and a low around 49°F.

Wednesday:



Mostly sunny, with a high near 71°F and a low around 49°F.

Thursday:



Mostly sunny, with a high near 72°F and a low around 49°F.

Friday:



Mostly sunny, with a high near 72 and a low around 51°F.

Courtesy of NOAA.gov

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Mr. and Ms. CSUSB 2008

Students win title and spring quarter tuition

Shantal Anderson
Staff Writer

The "Under the Sea-SUSB" pageant, sponsored by ASI, gave our students the opportunity to show off their talent, intelligence, and charisma for a chance to win the title of Mr. and Ms. CSUSB.

ASI held their annual Mr. and Ms. CSUSB pageant Friday February 29. The theme for this year's pageant was under the sea. More than 200 students, staff, and family members showed their support.

Jessica Soza, who was crowned Ms. CSUSB, is a music major. As a talent, Soza sang an opera song called "The Hours Creep On a Pace," by Gilbert and Sullivan. Soza had previous experience in pageantry, and was Ms. Fontana in 2002.

To help prepare for the pageant, Soza did hours of research on the campus and sang everyday. "Being on stage is pretty nerve-wrecking. Everyone backstage is really encouraging and pleasant. My CSUSB spirit is in music."

Jonathan Billinger, who was crowned Mr. CSUSB, is a senior majoring in marketing with a minor in business management. Billinger, who is highly involved in his fraternity, Kappa Alpha Psi

incorporated, took the pageant seriously.

"I took time with make my outfit and took notes like I was in class" Billinger said. "My pockets need it more than anything."

To help prepare for the pageant, Billinger went over his poem over and over again, went shopping in the mall, and went over his notes. Billinger does have experience in being in talent shows and claims that he loves the stage.

The second place runner-ups were Tim Washburn and Raychel Price. First place runner ups were Julieta Gonsales and Kyle Castro.

Different Greek organizations were able to come out and show their support with various banners and signs showing spirit and love for the various Greek members who competed in the pageant.

The pageant was separated into three categories, which were made to assist the judges in choosing the best candidate.

The categories were in: talent, where the contestant was responsible for showing their best talent; interview, where the contestant was asked a series of questions pertaining to their outlook on our economy, school system, and the future generation; and the last was coyote spirit, where the contestants had to show "coyote pride."

The talent varied from singing in opera, reciting poems, making animal balloons, reciting skit performances, and dancing.

The pageant contained 10 girls, seven boys, and three judges, who were Dorothy Chen-Maynard from the Health Science department, Salvadore Murguia from the Sociology department, and Donna Gotch from the Communications Department.

Last year's Mr. CSUSB was present to perform the skit from last year's pageant. He gave words of encouragement to the audience and the contestants, and also gave

leeway time for the judges to eliminate half of the contestants.

Towards the end of the pageant, six contests were left to answer one question randomly from a glass bowl and show their coyote spirit.

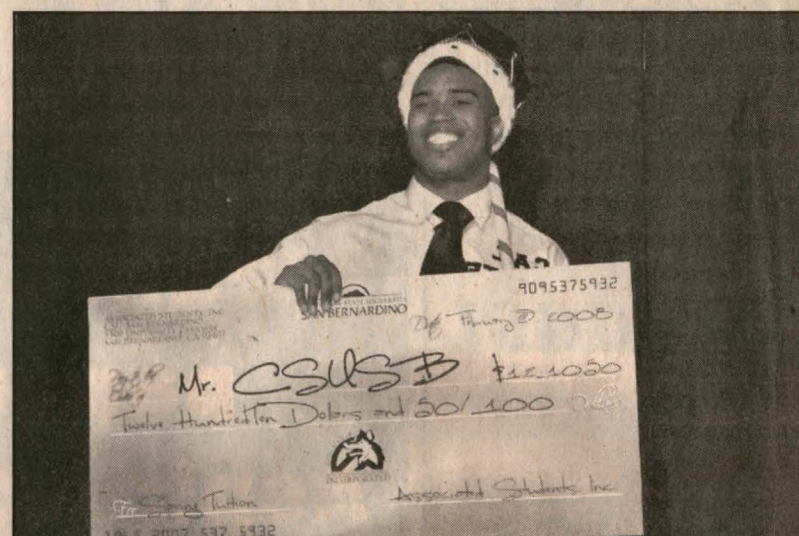
Pressure and nervousness resumed around the contestants, which was shown when contestant Tim Washburn was asked why he deserves to be Mr. CSUSB.

Washburn responded by saying he felt that the two other male contestants deserve the title more than him. Washburn walked away with second runner-up.



Courtesy of John Paul

Ms. and Mr. CSUSB, Jessica Soza and Jonathan Billinger holding checks for \$1,210.20 each, equal to the cost of spring tuition.



Courtesy of John Paul

Newly elected Mr. CSUSB, Jonathan Billinger, posing with his crown and a check paying for his spring quarter tuition.

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Dangers of alcohol revealed

Donna Parrish
Staff Writer

CSUSB students are going to learn the risks involved in misuse of alcohol.

On Mar. 10-14, the Student Health Center (SHC) is presenting Alcohol Awareness Week.

The California Highway Patrol will have a display in the Student Union on Monday from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. They will be here to answer questions and give information and statistics.

Throughout the week, the SHC is requesting that anyone who has been negatively affected by an alcohol-related situation to send in a memorial picture of you, a loved one, or friend.

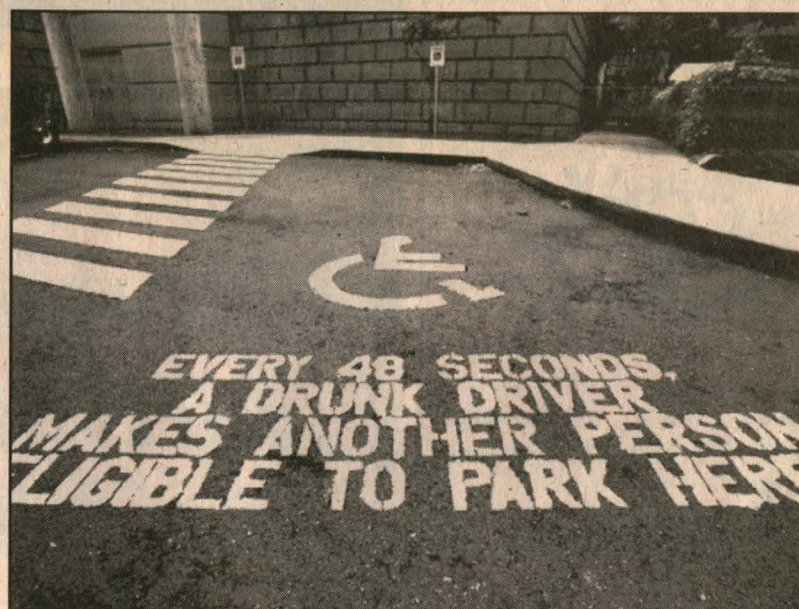
There will be a posting of these pictures and memories on the "Wall of Remembrance" in the Student Union for everyone to see for the week.

Submissions should be sent to Elaine Buckholder in the SHC at elaine@csusb.edu.

According to the SHC, Alcohol Awareness Week is meant to inform students that it can take one drink and a turn of the ignition key to end a life.

By showing actual events and real faces, the SHC hopes to leave a deeper impression on people than just statistics.

Approximately 1,700 college students between the ages of 18-24



Courtesy of www.drunkduck.com

The SHC will provide information on dangers of alcohol misuse.

die each year from alcohol misuse. These numbers are too high.

The SHC believes that everyone can help by not drinking and driving, supporting stronger enforcement of the already existing laws and more research for vehicle technology.

Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD) will be sponsoring a Car Crash Display with an information booth providing information on drunk driving and business cards with the phone number for a 'free taxi' service offered by the San Bernardino Bell Cab and Yellow Cab Co.

In addition, the SHC will pro-

vide a "Fatal Vision" driving course on the main lawn in front of the Pfau Library.

This is an opportunity to experience how those who have been drinking would maneuver through a coned obstacle course after drinking three to six beers.

"Fatal vision" goggles are worn while driving the course and it gives an impression of what is seen and how it feels driving a vehicle after drinking.

Peer Health Educators will be present all week riding around in a taxi cab decorated golf cart as they pass out flyers with health information and provide referrals.

Cab companies offer free rides

Donna Parrish
Staff Writer

This Spring Break, CSUSB students in the San Bernardino City area will be able to come home safely after having their fun.

According to research from Mothers Against Drunk Drivers (MADD), in 2006, 17,602 people died in alcohol related crashes. That is one death every 30 minutes. That figure equals 41 percent of the total number of traffic fatalities in 2006.

Furthermore, in 2004, 1.4 million people in the U.S. were arrested for driving under the influence.

That means one driver in every 139 licensed drivers is arrested because of an illegal amount of alcohol or drugs in their system.

This coming spring break, any CSUSB student can call 1-800-340-8294 if they are at a bar and have been drinking and will be given a ride home or to the college campus.

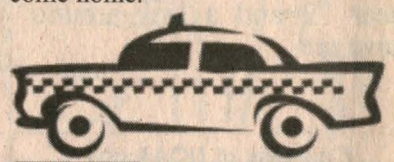
The San Bernardino Bell Cab and the Yellow Cab Co. have partnered with Anheuser Busch to offer the CSUSB students a ride home from any bar in the vicinity of San Bernardino City from March 21 through 31.

The cab will come within 20

minutes of the call and the driver will ask to see a valid CSUSB student I.D.

For this service, there will be no questions asked and no faculty member or persons in authority will be advised of your call for the free taxi ride.

Everyone wants you to come home safe. No one wants you to drink and drive and maybe not come home.



Program highlights marine life

Courtney Martin
Staff Writer

A team of scientists has a mission to bring the ocean life in Monterey Bay to Southern California and other parts of the country.

From March 3-8, on our Palm Desert campus, a live satellite feed from Monterey Bay will be available to students not only on the Palm Desert Campus, but also at several locations nationwide.

During the live feed, scientists will show marine life such as starfish, urchins, sea otters, whales and the 100-foot-tall kelp forest.

Their goal is to get students interested in science at an early age so they will continue their studies through college and pursue a career in science.

"Immersion Presents" is an education program that uses a fascinating approach to topics that naturally draws students into the learning process, according to the website.

The program targets children in grades 3 through 9.

"This is the sixth year we've had this program here on the campus," said director and CSUSB-

Palm Desert campus professor Jan Woerner. "At the end of this week we will have had 1,100 students participate in the program. The grade level of the kids here range from second to tenth grade."

The research vessel "R/V Fulmar" will guide students through the waters on their excursion and show the wonders of the ocean life in Monterey Bay.

"A lot of the science information goes over the heads of the younger students," said Woerner. "They think it's fascinating to see the scientists just swimming and diving in the water. There are lots of kids here that are very interested in science."

Leaders of the program hope to inspire kids to continue with their studies in the science field, so when they get to college that already know they path they want to take in getting their degree.

During each of the live broadcasts, students can e-mail the scientists a question they would like answered.

Not every question will be answered but six to eight questions are usually covered during each 30-minute broadcast. The broadcast runs every hour on the hour.

According to "Immersion Presents" at the CSUSB-Palm Desert campus, the objective of the project is to provide an experience-based science and mathematics curriculum for students and professional development experience for their teachers.

During the fall, teachers are welcome to come and participate in a workshop at the Palm Desert campus.

Teachers can learn the information at the workshop, then take it to their classroom and share it with their students.

Then, in the spring they can bring their students to the Palm Desert campus and have them participate in the "Immersion Presents" project.

The program is put on once a year for a week, usually the first week in March.

The teacher's workshop runs from October to November.

Students and teachers from sponsoring school districts can attend free of charge.

Students and teachers outside of the sponsoring school district will need to contact the Palm Desert campus for information on attending.



Courtesy of www.immersionpresents.org

Scientists create excitement about marine life for kids using new technology at Palm Desert.

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CKP the campus kitchens project

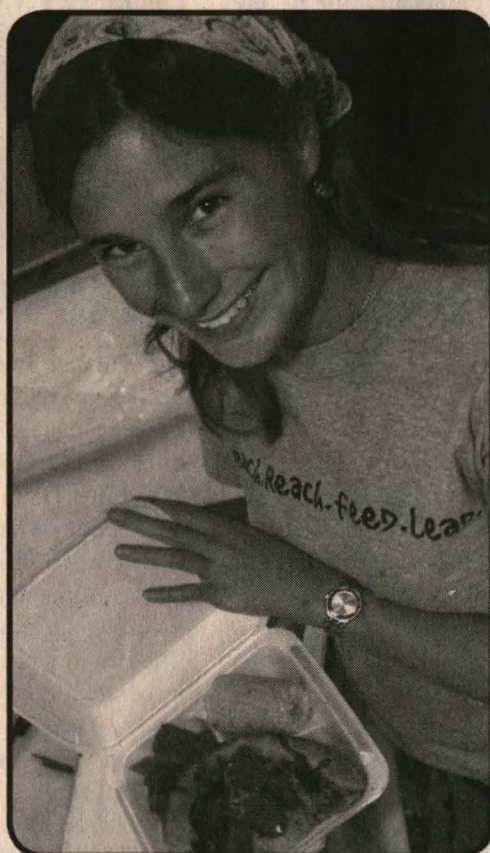
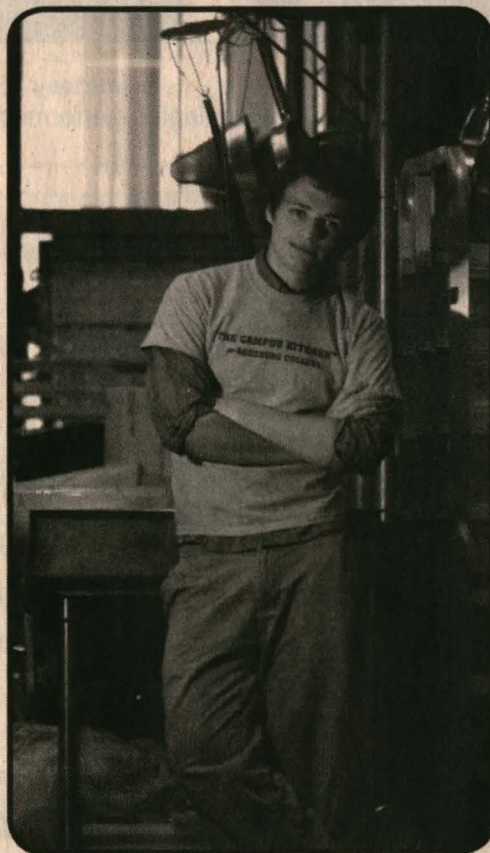
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Rumbles and grumbles over diet pills

Steven Iacono
Staff Writer

Dizziness, nausea, chest pain, heart attacks, strokes, seizures, stomach pains, and uncontrollable bowel movements.

This sounds like a list of symptoms caused by some horrendous new disease. Instead, they are a few possible side effects associated with leading diet pills that are consumed by millions of Americans every day.

The dangers of diet pills came to the forefront in 2004 when an extract called ephedra was pulled off the shelves by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) due to allegations that the supplement caused many of the symptoms listed above.

Since 2004, many diet pills have found other ways to drop pounds without ephedra. One has even been approved by the FDA, but many pills still come with undesirable consequences, and may not be sufficiently effective to take the risks.

The diet pill "Alli" has become one of the most popular diet aids, and the first FDA

approved diet pill on the market.

Alli claims that an individual can lose up to 50 percent more weight with their pill than with just diet and exercise alone.

Alli is an over-the-counter version of the fat blocker Xenica, formally used by doctors for clinically obese patients. Studies have shown that the pill does aid in weight loss, but they come with not so pleasant sacrifices.

A number of users of the pill have reported side effects such as loose stools, excess gas, stomach discomfort, and uncontrollable bowel movements. In fact, it has been suggested that beginners wear dark pants or have a change of clothes handy until they get used to these potential dangers.

The company's website says that not everyone experiences these effects, and that they can be manageable when you follow a reduced-calorie, low-fat diet.

Although this can prove to be a very embarrassing consequence for veering off your diet, other diet pills have warnings that can prove much more serious.

"Many pills raise your temperature to boost your metabolism

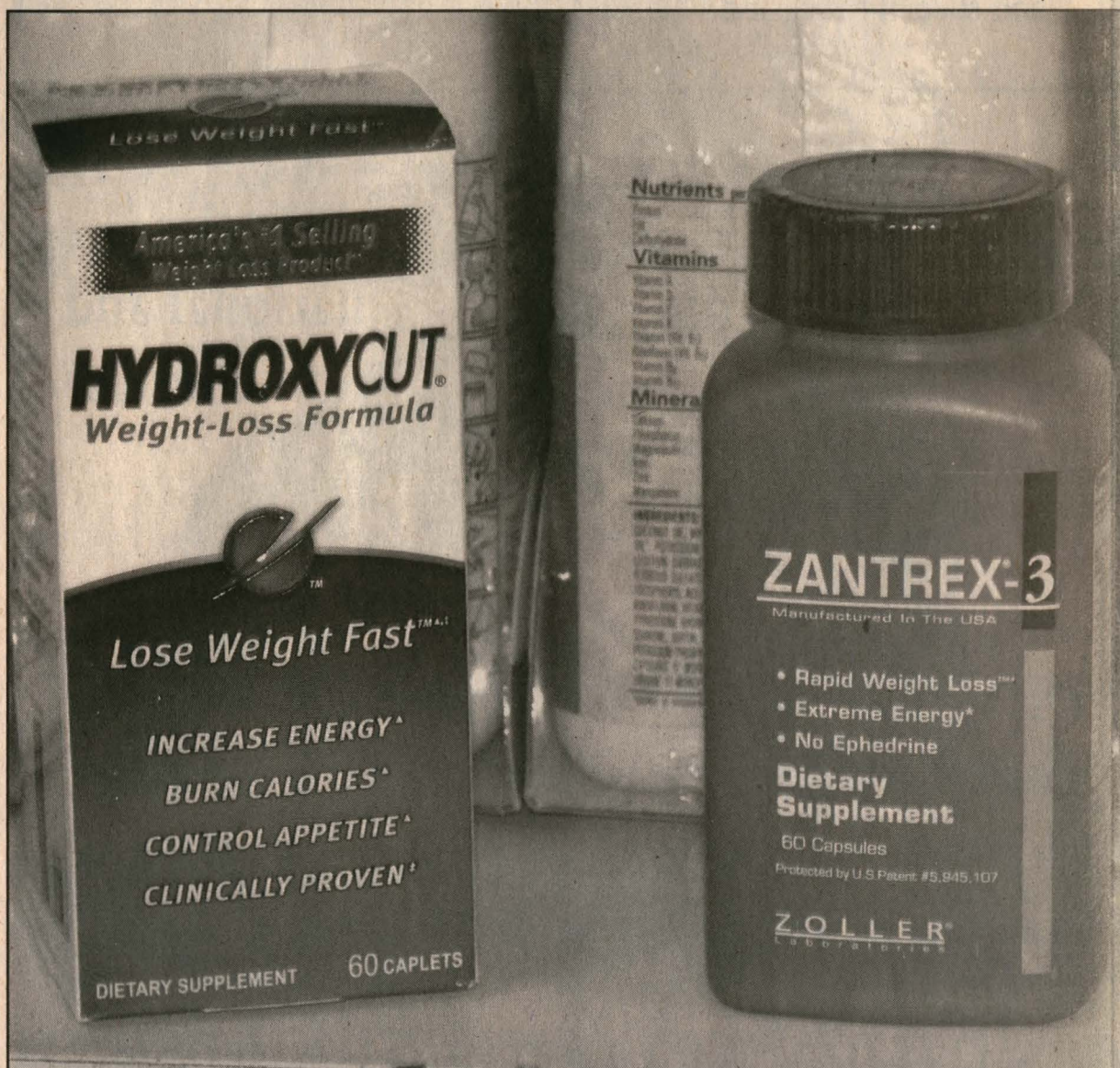
and burn calories," said Dallas King, a former personal trainer at Bally's Total Fitness. "But they can have some adverse side effects such as dizziness, insomnia, and nausea. They also increase your heart rate and raise your blood pressure. That is what leads to the big problems like heart attacks and strokes."

King added that many of these pills only work in the short term anyway, and should not be thought of as any kind of long term savior.

"These kinds of things increase your metabolism for a short time," said King. "It's hard to keep it up, and as soon as you stop using the pills, most of the time you gain the weight right back."

Alli has been approved by the FDA and appears to hold less severe side effects than some pills of the past. The Alli packet comes with a guide on healthy eating, and the company emphasizes that their product is only to be used as an aid, and not as a miracle drug.

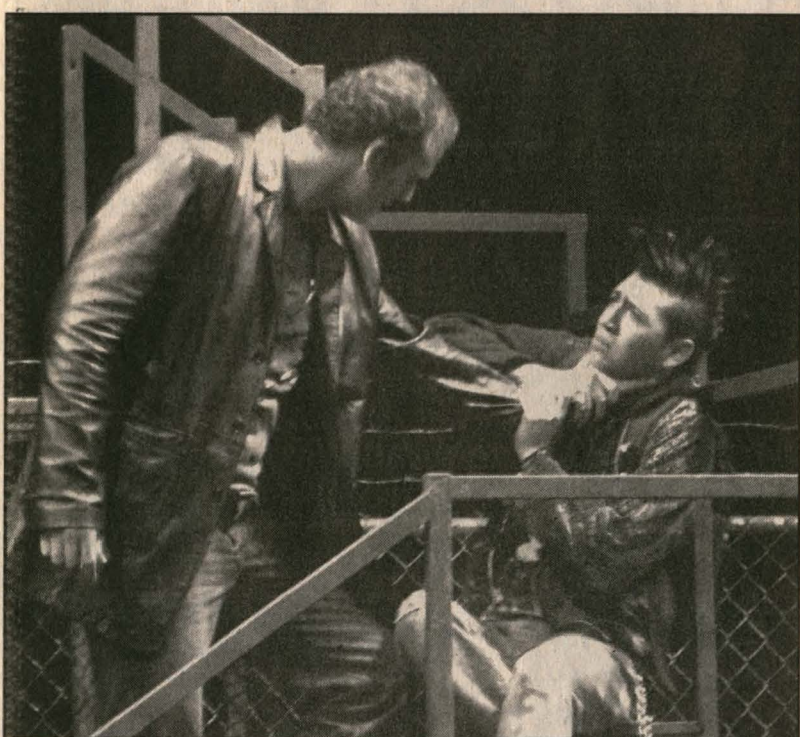
King ended with saying that before taking any weight loss supplement to consult with a physician, and apparently in some cases "invest in extra underwear."



Steven Iacono/Chronicle

Diet pills can assist in weight loss but side effects could include uncontrollable bowel movements.

“Misplaced” desire



Christine Garcia/Chronicle
Actor Tony Vaksha puts a choke hold on actor Michael Baker.

Christine Garcia
Staff Writer

Drugs, romance and skin-heads.

These are all featured in the theater production of “Polaroid Stories,” which is being staged at CSUSB’s Ronald E. Barnes Theatre.

Stories of desire, love and betrayal are told through an assortment of diverse characters in the play.

While modernizing Ovid’s “Metamorphoses,” Naomi Iizuka’s “Polaroid Stories” tells stories of characters that face life obstacles and seek escape.

The play, directed by Terry

Donovan Smith, portrays characters living in a drug-filled world. The stories are told by unifying ancient Greek mythology with the hectic lives of kids from the street.

According to Smith’s directors notes provided in the play’s program, “Polaroid Stories” is ultimately about desire; the misplaced desire to escape through lies, self-medication, and a moment’s respite with a comrade-in-pain. In the end, it is about the desire to escape into something pure, eternal and pain-free.

Lighting Designer Lee Lyons provided captivating lighting techniques. One impressive scene is when the character, “Skinhead girl” is standing in front of the

starlit background while small beams of light shine on her.

The set looked dangerous. Trash-filled cans and natural sound cues provided a street-like atmosphere.

Lyons, also the scenic designer, accurately depicted scenes taking place on the streets.

Throughout the production, it’s apparent that the characters feel trapped within their own lives.

The chain-link fence that dominates the stage authentically portrays a feeling of entrapment.

Another prop that is used throughout the play is a rusted metal step-ladder.

Various emotions and activities are projected onto this ladder, as people climb up, hang from and throw people against it.

With various sound cues and modern-day music, Sound Designers Lyons and Michael Gonzales successfully provide sounds that are parallel to the distressing mood of the production.

The interesting array of costumes was designed by Andre Harrington.

Different personalities were reflected through vibrant colorful outfits to dark, gothic type styles.

The ten main characters each have different ways of facing their obstacles. They were all fantastic.

Nicholas Jenkins (Orpheus/Tereus) puts on a captivating performance as his characters’ feelings are successfully conveyed through his acting.

Senior David Brown’s performance (Narcissus) is also noteworthy.



Courtesy of latimes.com

Will Ferrell’s dancing, singing and bear-wrestling weren’t enough to make his new film a hit.

“Semi-Pro” equals semi-funny

Allison Whiteside
Staff Writer

What could’ve been another Will Ferrell comedy hit, “Semi-Pro” was only semi-funny.

“Semi-Pro” has its moments of hilarity but they are few and far between.

Ferrell tries to reach the success of movies such as “Anchorman” and “Old School,” but “Semi-Pro” just doesn’t reach the same comic heights.

The plot was just like everything we’ve seen before and while some of the jokes were funny, most fell short.

Ferrell plays Jackie Moon. He has all the makings of a 70’s basketball star with the afro and the short shorts.

Moon is the owner, player and coach of the Flint Michigan Tropics, an ABA basketball team that is trying to make it into the NBA.

The Tropics’ goal is to be one of the top four teams in the ABA so they can merge with the NBA.

To give the team a better chance at making the top four, Moon trades the team’s washing machine for an ex-NBA star.

That player is Monix, played by Woody Harrelson.

Monix soon takes over as coach and gives the team some structure. The Tropics’ star player is Clarence “Coffee” Black, played by Andre Benjamin.

With Monix as coach the team’s chemistry starts presenting itself. Moon, however, has become the team’s promoter and thinks of outrageous ways to get fans to attend.

Some of those tactics account for a few good laughs but the rest just seem excessive. One of my favorite parts in the movie was when Moon’s mother was revealed.

After receiving a concussion

while playing, he dreams he is in heaven where he sees his mother played by 70’s-pop-star Patti LaBelle.

LaBelle’s most famous song, “Lady Marmalade,” is featured on the movie’s soundtrack.

Even though the movie was a letdown, the soundtrack was amazing if you like 70s funk.

It contains hits by artists such as Sly and the Family Stone and War. The soundtrack’s lead track is “Love Me Sexy,” which is sung by Jackie Moon (Will Ferrell). The song added to the comedic factor and was one of the more memorable parts of the movie. The movie was directed by Kent Alterman.

The movie reached number one at the box office grossing an estimated \$15 million, which fails in comparison to “Anchorman,” “Talladega Nights” and “Blades Of Glory,” which all grossed between \$33 and \$47 million.

Linkin Park, Coheed, rock Staples

Vanessa Looney
Staff Writer

Linkin Park performed with Coheed and Cambria at the Staple Center on March 4th.

People were there mainly to see Linkin Park and not the side band.

Going inside the 900,000 square-foot arena that holds around 20,000 spectators for concerts, it was easy to see that the arena was lacking full capacity for Coheed and Cambria.

Many were outside the stadium drinking, conversing, buying souvenirs, and this was all happening during Coheed and Cambria’s performance of one of their hit songs, “Come What May.”

There were a few fans on the floor where standing-room only was available.

Needless to say, there was plenty of room to stand.

“No World for Tomorrow” is the title of Coheed and Cambria’s album that is on sale now.



Courtesy of mtv.com

Linkin Park and frontman Chester Bennington performed in L.A.

The stage was placed on one side, the floor area in front was for standing room only, and there were the seats above the floor.

The concert seating was so high in demand that instead of cutting off the area in back of the stage, Staple Center opened up the backstage area seating for every angle of the stage to be seen.

The energy was high.

The band came up from below the stage to perform their opener, “What I’ve Done,” from their recent album Minutes to Midnight.

The entire floor jumped and waved their hands up and down to

the beats.

The same was with the first couple floors of seating areas around the stage.

Songs from Linkin Park’s past albums, Hybrid Theory and Meteora were included into the mix.

Half-way through the concert, the mood slowed down with such songs as “Shadow of a Day” and “The Little Things Give You Away.”

With these melodic songs, it made it easier to hear the crowd resonate with the band.

Urban fantasy comes to life

Jamie Murray
Staff Writer

In celebration of “The Outlaw Demon Wails” release, author Kim Harrison has been traveling all over the country to meet her fans.

An eclectic crowd of individuals helped to celebrate the book’s debut at a book signing event in San Diego on Feb. 29.

Elderly couples in wheel-chairs, college students, a few members of a Celtic dance team and sleep-deprived doctors were standing in line for up to three hours to have their books signed by Harrison.

Werewolves, pixies, demons, vampires, witches, elves, overprotective friends, insane mothers,

complicated love lives and unexpected twists and turns are all commonplace in Harrison’s latest book, “The Outlaw Demon Wails.”

The book is a delightful read that veers far from standard expectations of fantasy writing.

In this sixth installment of The Hollows book series, Harrison is continuing to break down the walls of the dark urban fantasy genre creating her own parameters for the genre.

Harrison has created new history for the modern world, which is elaborated on in “The Outlaw Demon Wails.”

Harrison holds true to the major guidelines of dark urban fantasy, allowing her characters to

live in a modern human world, but she invents original mythology. In her series, elves are nearly extinct, demons have not reproduced in nearly 5,000 years and there are male witches and living vampires.

Many books in the fantasy genre are written in a formulaic way.

Harrison’s books are far from following that familiar plot structure. The characters on the side of good do not always come through their adventures unscathed.

Harrison published her first book, “Dead Witch Walking,” in 2004 and has quickly risen to hold a place among today’s best fantasy writers.

“The Outlaw Demon Wails” is an unforgettable read.

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Courtesy of SideOneDummy Records
Flogging Molly's new album proves the bands strive for quality and want to produce quality music.

Flogging Molly ‘Float’ to the top

Ken Dillard
Copy Editor/Staff Writer

Flogging Molly has crafted as mature and diverse a record as any that has been released so far in 2008.

Despite its March release, “Float” may remain the most significant rock record by the end of the year as well.

Backed by a ferocious live show and legions of Guinness-fueled fans, Los Angeles’ Irish-tinged-punk septuplet Flogging Molly have been a growing underground phenomenon since the mid 90s.

Frontman Dave King has seen enough in his life to write songs with mature and relevant themes.

He left war-torn Ireland for a chance at rock stardom with the doomed hair-metal act Fastway in the early 80s.

King’s poetic and literate song writing has been a constant theme throughout Flogging Molly’s existence.

The first album Flogging Molly has ever recorded in Ireland, “Float” continues this trend with several beautifully written and impressively crafted songs.

From the scathing critique of U.S. foreign policy and the difficulty of maintaining hope in the face of war on “Requiem for a Dying Song,” to a wary embrace

of the healing of the Ireland after hundreds of years of sectarian violence on “(No More) Paddy’s Lament,” King brings a fresh perspective to situations that still resonate in millions of lives across the globe.

The songwriting and production decisions on “Float” are nearly perfect.

King has drawn on a wider stable of influences than he has shown before.

“You Won’t Make a Fool Out of Me” bounces and grows along like Johnny Cash in his prime and the Lennon-esque ballad, “The Story So Far,” closes out the album with a classic coda straight out of the Beatles’ bag of tricks.

In deciding to produce the record themselves, Flogging Molly may have made the best possible decision for the success of the record.

The overall sound of “Float” is thicker and heavier than anything the band has produced before.

Bassist Nathan Maxwell and drummer George Schwindt have been moved up in the mix, adding power and precision to the faster numbers.

“Punch Drunk Grinning Soul” puts the whole unit on display.

King’s racing acoustic guitar, Maxwell’s solid bass and Schwindt’s driving drums create a solid backbone for Dennis Casey’s

electric-guitar musculature.

Bridget Regan (fiddle/tin whistle), Bob Schmidt (mandolin/banjo) and returning member Matt Hensley (accordion) add tasteful accompaniment before everybody gets out of Casey’s way and the song blasts into hard-rock overdrive for the last 50 seconds.

As on every Flogging Molly album, Regan is a revelation.

Her elegant and graceful tin whistle playing is only overshadowed by the awe-inspiring thrill of her fiddle mastery.

She elevates the entire record, but specific praise is required for the gorgeous melodies she displays on the title track.

After 2004’s “Within a Mile of Home,” Flogging Molly seemed to have hit their peak.

The songwriting was effective on “Within a Mile of Home,” but the aggressiveness that marked their earlier efforts had been dialed back in an apparent attempt at creating a sense of maturity.

As a result, the album felt somewhat flat and not engaging.

“Float” solves all these problems.

It demonstrates a happy medium between mature songwriting and powerful production.

There isn’t a weak song on the record.

Flogging Molly will be performing live at the Coachella Music Festival in late April.

Prepare to be “Disciplined”

Tanya Tumkaya
Staff Writer

With the new album “Discipline,” Janet Jackson is showing up again on the charts.

Throughout her career, Jackson has written about personal struggles, racism, sexism, education, unity and love.

In 2004, Jackson’s performance at the Super Bowl halftime show with Justin Timberlake turned into a nightmare, showing Jackson’s pierced breast.

After the incident, Jackson apologized to the show’s producers at MTV.

The event set off a nationwide debate over FCC regulations and public offensiveness.

The incident unfairly hurt her “Damita Jo” and “20 Y.O.” albums.

Jackson has been struggling to regain her hit-maker status ever since.

Virgin Records gave her the boot after Jackson’s albums plummeted.

Second to go were longtime producers Jimmy Jam and Terry Lewis.

Island Def Jam big-wig L.A. Reid has stepped in, bringing in a great deal of big names, including Ne-Yo, the Dream, Tricky Stewart and Jermaine Dupri.



Courtesy of whatsnewzone.blogspot.com

The outcome is a very unconventional album of R&B and dance beats that keeps you wanting to dance along.

However, the album deals a little too much with futuristic beats

and too many break tracks.

Since 1993’s “Janet,” Jackson has used sexuality throughout her music, with promiscuous and evocative vocals.

Her new album is not much different.

She’s stuck on reveling in her sexuality.

Jackson’s reputation of sexually energized music is starting to seem a bit stale.

The majority of each of her previous albums contains songs that are all similar.

“My body’s here, I’m soaking wet, I wanna give you something that you won’t forget, your appetite is all for me, maybe you can have it all, we’ll just wait and see.”

This is just an excerpt of lyrics from her new song “2nite.”

Jackson does manage to keep you listening on sexy dance numbers like “2nite” and “Rock With U.”

“2nite” may be Jackson’s strongest offer for a hit in years, with a vibe that sounds like her dance-music period in the late 90s.

Jackson has some great songs on “Discipline,” and a good amount of possible hits, but the record is damaged by too much repetition.

“Discipline” is available now at Jackson’s website.

Chronicle Concert Calendar		
Artist	Dates	Pricing
Kanye West	4/21-22 Nokia Theater Los Angeles, CA	\$59.50 - \$109.50
Alicia Keys	5/4 Honda Center Anaheim, CA 5/5 Staples Center Los Angeles, CA	\$85.00 - \$125.00
Bon Jovi	4/4 - 4/5 Honda Center Anaheim, CA 4/9 Staples Center Los Angeles, CA	\$99.50 - \$129.50
Keith Urban and Carrie Underwood	3/13 Honda Center Anaheim, CA	\$35.00 - \$82.50
Coachella Music Festival	4/25 - 4/27 Empire Polo Field Indio, CA	\$269.00 (3-day pass)

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South America crisis

Natash Hamid
Staff Writer

A military and diplomatic crisis is deepening in South America. It involves Colombia, Venezuela and Ecuador.

Colombian troops, on March 1, launched a raid on alleged rebel camps inside Ecuador that killed 17 rebels, including the second ranking commander, Raul Reyes of the Marxist group, Fuerzas Armadas Revolucionarias de Colombia (Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia, or FARC).

The FARC is estimated to hold at least 700 hostages in the jungles of Colombia.

"I think this situation is perpetuated by political agenda and power. It's sad to think that innocent civilians are being held hostage when they had no involvement in the dispute," said Sarah Sipes, a senior at CSUSB.

In response, both Ecuador and Venezuela have severed diplomatic ties with Colombia and both countries have sent troops to their borders.

"Initially, this was a Colombian operation that began on Colombian territory, but then spilled over into Ecuador. The units were looking for a rebel leader, Raul Reyes, and received fire from the Ecuadorian side of

the border. So in hot pursuit, Colombian troops and aircraft crossed over the line and killed this rebel leader," said Chris Kraul of the Los Angeles Times.

Kraul's story was carried on National Public Radio.

Colombia's official explanation was that its forces were under hot pursuit.

In an effort to investigate Colombia's claim, Ecuadorian officials sent a delegation to inspect the site. They found that there were still victims on the scene.

Upon arrival, the Ecuadorian government found that many of them seemed to be in their pajamas. Ecuadorians concluded that the incursion could not have been a "hot pursuit"; rather it was a pre-planned operation, Ecuadorian officials claimed.

Colombia has also claimed that Ecuador has been helping FARC guerrillas by meeting with them and working out ways to accommodate them inside Ecuadorian territory.

Kraul's report explained that three laptops were recovered from the rebel leader's possession.

"According to the Colombian police, they demonstrate that there were ongoing relations between the rebels and the Ecuadorian government," said Kraul.

"[...] the interior minister, Gustavo Larrea had met with Reyes a time or two. Apparently the laptops are just a treasure trove of details in how the FARC managed external relations. One of the revelations is that it received \$300 million from [Venezuelan



Courtesy of www.galeon.com

In response, both Ecuador and Venezuela have severed diplomatic ties with Colombia and both countries have sent troops to their borders.

President] Hugo Chavez," said Kraul.

Venezuela has also sent troops to the border.

Venezuelans are perplexed as to why Hugo Chavez is mobilizing troops. Chavez says he is doing it to defend against a possible incursion such as the one that Colombian military forces carried out in Ecuador, according to an NPR report.

Chavez's opponents say that he is doing this to distract the attention of Venezuelans who are increasingly suffering from food

scarcities, high crime and the lack of basic human services. The chances of military action are remote because the three countries have shared good relations for decades. President George W. Bush

announced that the U.S. will stand by the Colombian president. Bush criticized what he called "provocative maneuvers" by Chavez.

Sovereignty is an issue that leaders care about and know that they have to uphold.

Most countries in South America are siding with Ecuador.

Nicaragua President Daniel Ortega said Thursday that his country is breaking relations with Colombia "in solidarity with the Ecuadorian people."

"I think this situation is perpetuated by political agenda and power"



Courtesy of www.appliedlanguage.com

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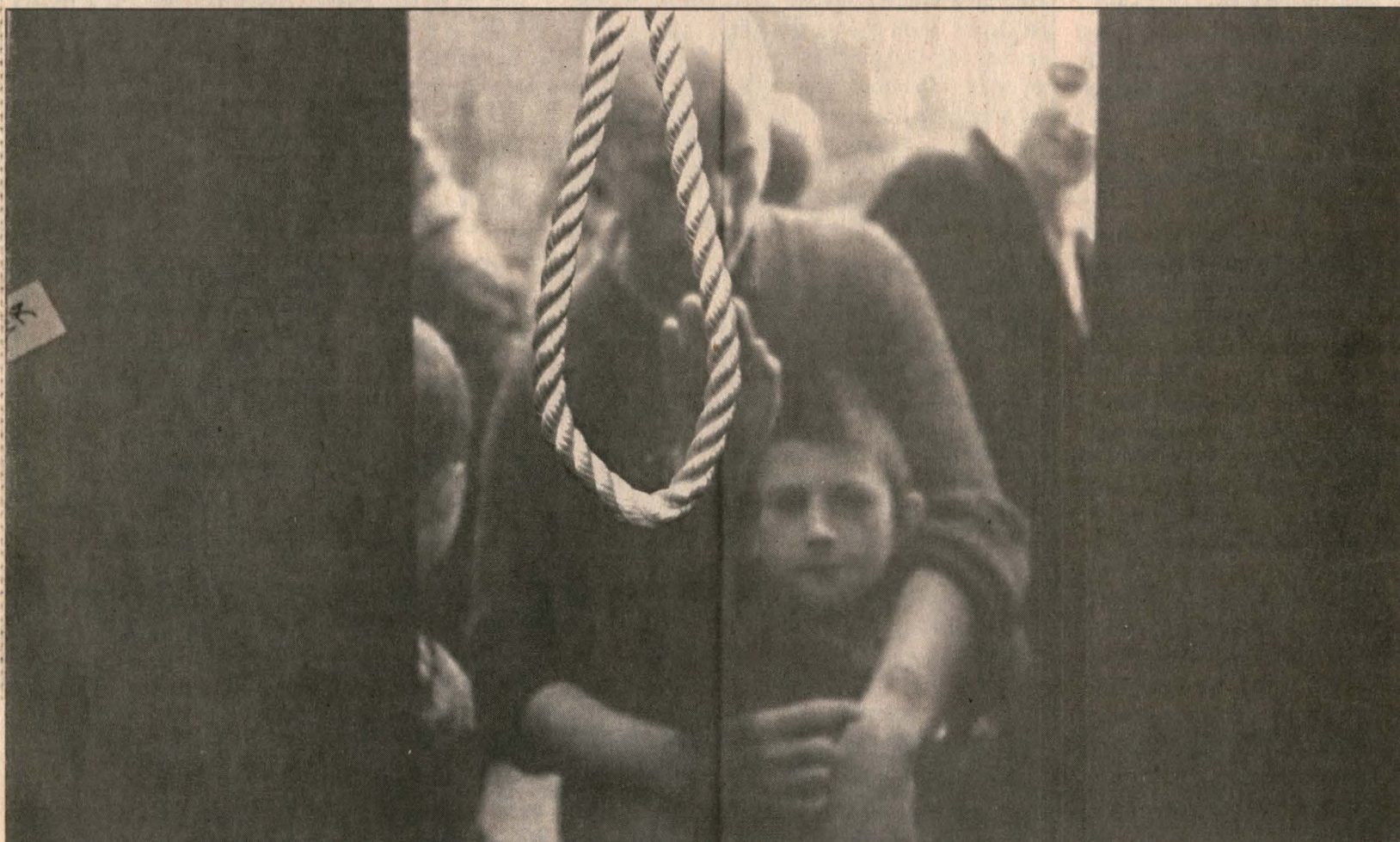
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Actors bring hate to life



Bart S. Alvara/Chronicle

The "Tunnel of Oppression" included seven displays and demonstrations featuring common themes of world oppression.

Bart S. Alvara
Staff Writer

"Against the wall! Line up! Face the Wall! Now!" shouted two Nazis dressed in black with blood-red badges displaying a swastika on their arms.

Then you're dead.

This is how the opening of the twenty minute demonstration, the "Tunnel of Oppression" began.

On March 6, in the Fourplex of the Student Union, the housing department put on an exhibit that immersed students into the world of hate.

The exhibit included seven displays and demonstrations featuring common themes of world oppression.

"We got the ideas from students themselves who had been through this," Christine Jordan, one of the coordinators for the

event, said. "The demonstrations were designed to be as real as possible."

The general reaction of students who went through the exhibit confirmed the use of vivid brutality as a powerful tool in sending the message that hate is a horrible experience.

"Although you know this hap-

pens, it is an experience one needs to be reminded of again and again," Biniam Berhane said.

"You're less than physically perfect!"

Each of the displays had actors that got in the tour-goers' faces — insulting, shouting and humiliating them.

Pictures depicting the Holocaust against the Jewish people in WWII were first on display.

Next, a lesser known type of oppression, called "perfectionism," which is the idea that a person needs to be skinny to be beautiful.

Pictures from beauty magazines lined the wall while a recording laughed and berated people for being ugly.

Cardboard boxes, scattered newspapers and actors playing the homeless littered the homeless tour.

As people walked through, they listened to a homeless woman read a poem about the tribulations homeless people face.

Nooses hung from the ceiling and an actor dressed as a KKK member paced through the next room, which was lined with horrific pictures of racism from all over the world.

Ableism — hate against people with physical and mental challenges — was the next display.

Participants were told to stare at the broken mirrors on the floor while being berated with insults.

"You're less than physically perfect!" blared the voices.

In the last room in the sequence, which displayed violence toward gays, showed a shocking final scene in which actors depicted a woman being forced to leave her lover's funeral.

The coordinators then led the participants into a room where they were allowed to discuss what they witnessed.

Most of the room was silent.

The general reactions from the students were simple one word answers such as "intense" or "powerful."

"I thank God that America can finally look at itself," JoAnn Deyou said, "to make ourselves better."

Dia Latino Flavor and culture collide

Stephanie Rodriguez
Staff Writer

The weather was great, the food smelled delicious and live music floated through the air at the outside patio of the Lower Commons.

March 4 was a perfect day for the Cross-Cultural Center's (CCC) Dia Latino.

Approximately 20 colorful tables displayed the culture of several different Latin countries.

Puerto Rico, Cuba, El Salvador, Nicaragua, Honduras and Chile were all included, and carne asada street tacos were served.

The CCC collaborated with professors from the world languages department to help set up the displays.

People who were at the event were able to go to different tables and receive information about the different countries and their cultures.

Dia Latino had a great turnout; more than 100 students and faculty members attended, enjoying the delicious food and live music.

"The turnout was great, we had a big crowd. I really enjoyed the event," said organizer Carolyn Time. "The displays were my favorite part."

"I believe (everyone) had a good time," said graduate student Mario Garcia. "I had a lot of fun. It was nice to see the students come together."

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Sea swallowing homes

David Raclin
Staff Writer

Rising waters from the Chukchi Sea off of Alaska have flooded the remote village of Kivalina.

The roughly 400 residents of Kivalina filed a lawsuit in February that blames global warming.

The lawsuit blames global warming on the activities of several large energy companies like ExxonMobil, Chevron, British Petroleum America.

Actually, some of the same lawyers who extracted millions of dollars from American tobacco companies in the 1990s are suing for the village, and are hoping for similar cash-rich results.

I don't mean to discourage the Kivalinans, but California has tried a similar tactic in the past, with dismal results.

Former state Attorney General Bill Lockyer filed a 2006 lawsuit against six of the largest automakers, including Ford Motor Co., General Motors Corp. and Honda North America.

The suit claimed that global warming harmed California's environment, economy, agriculture and public health.

A federal judge in San

Francisco dismissed the case in 2007, saying that the automakers' contributions to global warming could not be measured, and that there were many causes, including some that occur naturally.

I don't hold out much hope for the Alaskan lawsuit, because they are really suing every American.

They are suing every American who drives a car, or takes the bus, or has light or heat in their home.

Kivalina's residents may be able to point out to the rest of the country that global warming destroyed their home. I just don't think the rest of the country cares enough to make a meaningful change.

If Americans did not buy any new cars from today through the end of the year, what kind of difference would that make?

Are Americans supposed to ask their legislators to pass higher gasoline taxes to discourage driving? What are any of us really willing to do to address this?

I go to school here and have an on-campus job. I live in Riverside.

I have not sought out a carpool because with my early mornings and late nights, I don't think there would be any takers. The

same goes for the bus.

This is a commuter campus. How many tons of carbon dioxide do CSU San Bernardino students dump into the air just driving down from Victorville, or Hesperia or Wrightwood, three quarters a year, for four, five or six years?

Our governor makes noise about protecting the environment, but our president sure hasn't.

There's a rebate on hybrid vehicles, but that's just another car on the road.

Where are the hybrid dump trucks, or construction equipment, or Hummer H3's?

Solar panels are still too inefficient and the giant windmills by Palm Springs kill lots of birds, or so I hear.

This country and this world run on oil, gas and coal. We've made our world dirty while we've remade our world. We burn dirty fuel to get things done. All the lawsuits in the world aren't going to change it.

So in the view that anything is possible, the Kivalina residents may get some money from the energy corporations. I hope they can convince a judge or a jury and get a big settlement.

A word of advice: rebuild somewhere inland.



Courtesy of www.caglecartoons.com

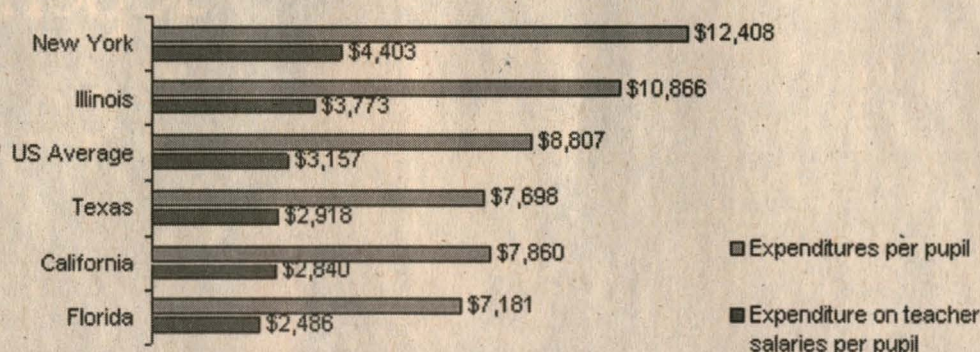
The rise in sea level is already threatening some homes. Do we need to learn to tread water in our sleep?



Courtesy of img.dailymail.co.uk

Many scientists believe our contributions to global warming seriously impact the animal kingdom.

Although California spends the most on teacher pay, its total and teacher salary expenditures per pupil are low among the five most populous states in 2003-04



	Average Teacher Salaries	Average Daily Attendance
New York	\$55,181	2,807,149
Illinois	\$54,230	1,868,084
U.S. Average	\$46,725	45,081,855
Texas	\$40,476	4,014,926
California	\$56,444	6,077,861
Florida	\$40,604	2,420,406

Data: National Education Association(NEA) Rankings & Estimates 2004-05

EdSource 11/05

Courtesy of National Education Association

The graph shows the relationship between students taught and average pay received.

California teachers underpaid

Scott Sanderson
Staff Writer

Teachers in California are underpaid, have low prestige and play the middle-man babysitter.

After looking at all the data and statistics it's easy to understand why so many teachers pack their bags and find other jobs.

There are several reasons why California has the worst turnout of keeping teachers teaching. The first reason can be observed by any K-12 student.

California has one of the worst student-to-teacher ratios in the nation. Only Utah and Oregon have worse student-to-teacher ratios.

The average ratio in California is 20 students to one teacher. That average sounds good, but, it is only an average and anyone could walk into a K-12 class and find some teachers teaching almost 50 students.

How does someone teach 50 students and expect all of them to learn the subject fully?

Imagine trying to teach 25 or more students in a Chemistry class with equipment that can be dangerous. This puts a strain on teachers who get less time to teach and more time babysitting students that

disturb class by being late or using cell-phones and many other reasons.

When looking at testing scores, it easy to see why California scores are below average. Students don't care enough and there aren't enough teachers.

According to the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES), California is among the five most populous states with scores below average on every test.

According to the NCES in 2003/2004, California had 35 percent more students than any other state. I believe that if we had more teachers per student, the testing scores would rise and less babysitting would occur, resulting in greater one-on-one teaching.

Another problem is the lack of respect for the teaching profession.

According to EDSOURCE online, California is above average for teacher salary in the country, but when you add the cost of living and the student per teacher ratio, it simply does not cut it.

According to ed-data, the average pay for a teacher in California is \$56,000, compared to New York's average pay of \$55,181.

The striking difference is how

many teachers there are and how many students attend each day.

California has over 6 million students in daily attendance. New York only has to deal with just under three million.

Knowing that California has more students-per-teacher, and more students to deal with, why do California teachers get paid the same as teachers from New York?

This is why I believe that so many California teachers quit their jobs and this is why they do not get paid what they should.

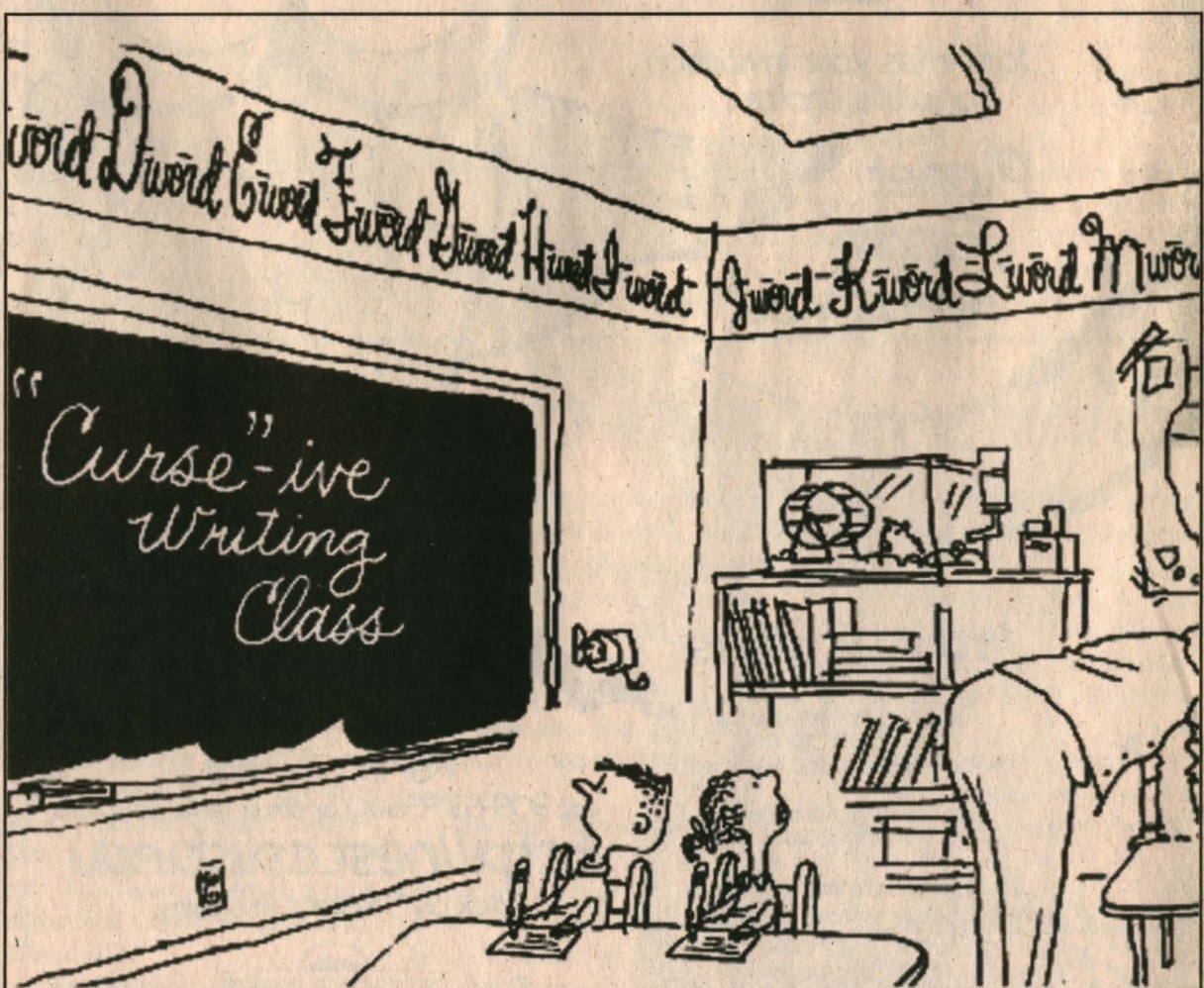
Teachers are always in fear of playing the middle man between parents, administration and the government.

To keep their credentials up to date, California teachers must attend seminars that give them the tools they need to be effective educators.

As stated by the California Department of Education, all teacher must attend 150 hours of class every five years to keep their credentials.

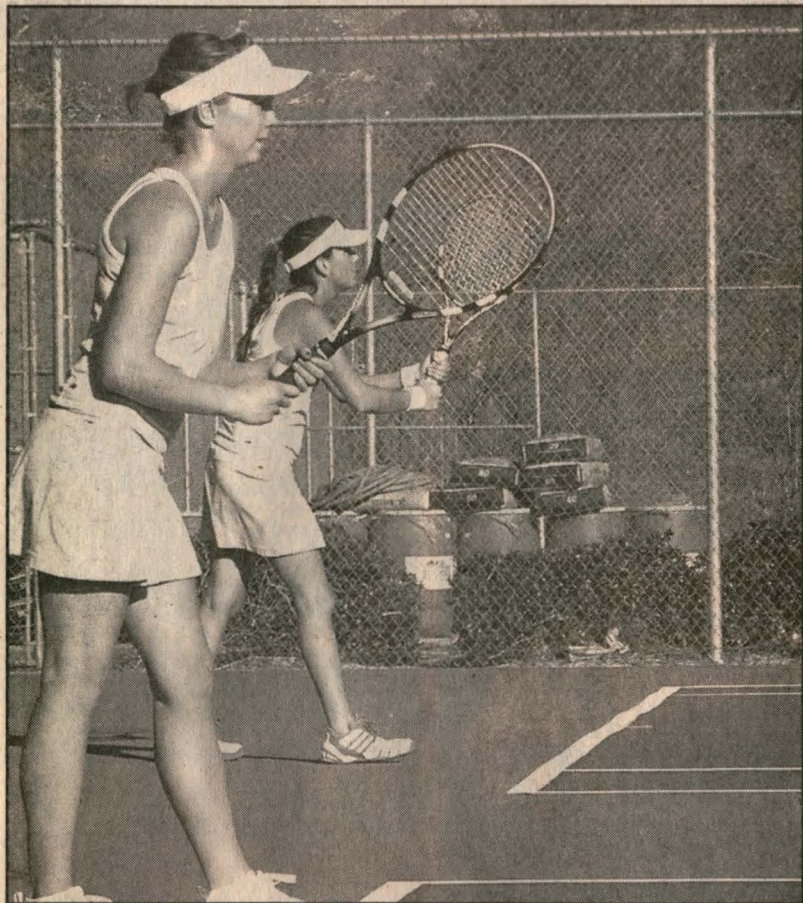
Not all aspects of teaching in California have gone down the drain. At least it is easier to finance college to become a teacher now.

There are a lot of programs like the APLE award that repays almost all tuition for teachers.



Courtesy of www.caglecartoons.com

Lower budgets, lower salaries, higher class sizes, layoffs, could we see some burnout?



Priscilla Cooper/ Chronicle
Dottie Elwell and Brittany Choate focus on Hope International serving, they anticipate their next shot.

A true mental game

Priscilla Cooper
Staff Writer

Tennis is not as easy as it looks.

A majority of the game is mental, not physical.

The Coyote's women tennis team knows this firsthand. In order to make winning shots, a strategy needs to be planned out. When planning a strategy, it all comes down to the mental aspect of the game.

"This is a mental game, because when your head is not in the game, the more likely you will be to make mistakes," said junior Xinia Chaves. "Concentration is the biggest key for tennis."

When many people see the game of tennis it may appear that the player is just taking a swing.

According to junior Dottie Elwell this is not the case.

"There is so much technique that goes into every shot, but it just looks like you are swinging your arm around," said Ewell.

This mental game can really take a lot out of a player. The game is won by each point not the overall score. The team knows that every point can impact how the set turns out.

"Tennis is definitely a mental game because even if you have the skills to keep the ball in play with pace and precision, all this is useless if you do not know how to get inside your opponent's head," said freshman Brittany Choate.

Every aspect of the game helps make a win.

The Coyotes recognize this as what they need to do to produce a win. One key focus for the women's tennis team has been doubles. The mental aspect still applies in the doubles aspect of

competition.

According to Chaves, in doubles, teammates are constantly being supportive of each other. Teammates can help each other stay positive on the courts.

Staying positive mentally helps partners play better together and continue to stay focused.

"It is not fun or a good idea to play with a partner that has negative thinking," said Chaves.

Working well together as a team can make a big impact on how the game turns out.

Doubles partners Choate and Elwell know that when playing together they can get into their opponents head. The duo can cover each other and set up for winning shots.

"We set each other up for winners," said Choate. "I serve out wide, forcing a weak return from the opponent and Dottie attacks to

hit a winning volley."

With all the work that the Coyotes are putting into their game the team is focused on the opponents they face for the rest of the season.

The team faces Cal Poly Pomona on March 15 at 11 a.m.

The Coyotes had previously faced the Broncos earlier in the season, with a 5-4 win.

The win was a highlight for the Coyotes as they made history, beating the Broncos for the first time in the school's history.

The win over the Broncos was followed by a win against Hope International, where the team swept 9-0.

As the season continues, the team has a positive attitude towards their next game.

They are prepared physically, but most importantly prepared mentally.

Coyotes take no prisoners

Enedino Romero Lopez
Staff Writer

It's a bond.

It's a gathering of fellow teammates.

It's a feeling of trying to achieve the same goal.

Team chemistry is often overlooked.

You can't always see it in every team and you can't always describe it if you aren't part of the team.

Chemistry can make or break a season.

When a team is enjoying each other's company and love being around one another, it makes it that much easier to play as a team and not as a bunch of individuals.

Although softball and baseball may seem alike, they are really quite different.

Softball is a fast moving game. Enthusiasm is more upbeat. Every single moment could become a turning point in the game.

In softball, everyone is involved in the game. The coaches are coaching.

The players on the field are playing to their full potential, and

the rest of the team is up in the dugout against the fence cheering their teammates on.

The infield is always on their toes, since a lot of softball plays are made in the infield.

As for the outfield they are still very much involved.

They need to back up the infield and cover all the ground in the outfield. Although they do not get as many plays as the infield they say they stay focused in the game.

They must know who is up to bat. Where did that person hit last time. What pitch is coming and then cheer their pitcher for support.

During a softball game, it is always loud. Cheers and chants are constantly yelled at the top of the lungs of both teams. Part of the game is almost seeing who can be louder and more hyped up.

CSUSB's softball team has tremendous team chemistry. From chatting while warming up, to working together in fundraisers, to having the desire for the same goal of winning the women are completely united.

"Team Chemistry is the biggest difference (between this

season and past seasons)," said Head Coach Tracy Duncan.

"You can see it in their fight and how they go about their ways. Women have to feel good to play good, while men have to play good to feel good," said Duncan.

Duncan wants her girls to feel good.

She wants them having fun and enjoying each other. Good chemistry comes first, than success will follow, she says.

Senior Nicole Camarena has been a great leader so far this year. She has managed the pitching rotation being behind the plate and has delivered with the bat as well.

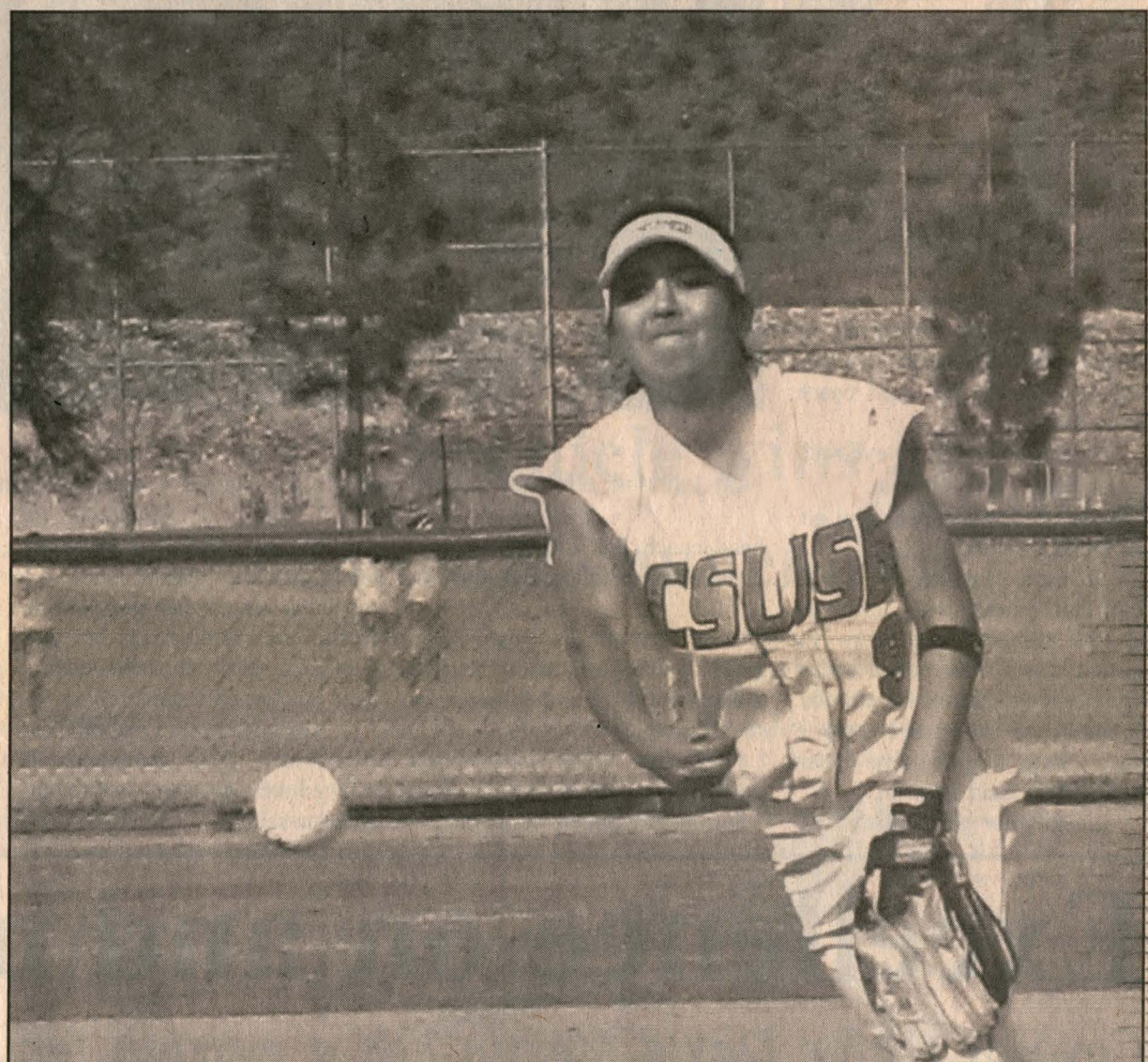
Camarena explained that the chemistry is really good on the team.

She also has a really strong bond with her pitchers. She wants them to feel comfortable pitching. She reminds them to relax and have fun.

The Coyotes are 16-12-1 and are still fighting to put up 40 victories this season.

Team chemistry is part of the reason for their winning ways.

The team's next home game is on March 18 at 1:30 p.m. against Humboldt State.



Priscilla Cooper/ Chronicle
Jackie Jacob helps close out the game over CSU Monterey Bay. The teams chant and cheer as loud as they can to distract their opponents.

Basketball season goes out with a bang

Rick Trujillo
Staff Writer

CSUSB was chosen to host the California Collegiate Athletic Association tournament to end the exciting basketball season coyote style.

It is the school's first CCAA conference basketball tournament following a 22-7 record for the season.

Organizing this type of tournament has made Cal State San Bernardino set the standard for other organizations.

"We've hosted enough NCAA tournaments that we know what we have to do in order to make it successful," said Senior Executive Athletic Director Mike Kovack.

Working with all other departments within Coussoulis Arena is a consideration while putting on these types of events.

"We have to work with Kinesiology, campus security, food services, parking services and along with others."

All the departments on campus need to know that these type of events are going on so they can

plan around the event. There are staff members that are in charge of putting the events together. The staff includes Mike Kovack, Liza Wilson, Jose Castillo and Scott Yingling.

"The last couple months we have been finalizing everything and making sure every 't' is crossed and every 'i' is dotted," said Kovack.

In addition to the main group of people that are in charge of organizing events, Assistant Athletic Director of Media Relations Mike Murphy is also working hard to get the word out to the public.

"Mike Murphy is in charge of advance publicity, puts programs together, works on press releases, and lines up all the people to work on the scorer's table," said Kovack.

There is one main goal that staff members try to accomplish while hosting a tournament.

"The first goal is to provide these athletes with the best experience as possible," said Liza Wilson, development coordinator. "When it comes to accommodations the athletes come first."

Not all decisions rest in the hands of the staff members that directly work on campus.

"We have to run everything through a commissioner, who is in

the Bay Area, who answers any special arrangements such as free tickets, VIP section seating, and accommodations for other athletic directors," said Kovack.

Even though there is little decision making, the staff exceeds at making the tournaments that they host the best they possibly can.

"Even though we do not have all the amenities that other schools have, such as San Diego and Los Angeles, we do put on one of the best basketball tournaments in the state," explained Kovack. "A lot of schools replicate us."

With the school's reputation of being able to handle sizeable tournaments, there is a lot of pride that is displayed by the staff in charge.

"We have the reputation of being able to do the job right and with class," said Wilson. "We are very proud of the way we pull together every time."

Mike Kovack summarized the organization of the tournament with a graceful notion of how important it is to get these types of tournaments into a positive environment.

"A lot of components go behind the scenes during these tournaments that nobody else really knows about. That's where we are successful."

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Johnson's path to success

Scott Heaton
Staff Writer

It's a dream for every college basketball player to get a chance to play in the NBA, and now Ivan Johnson, a former Coyote, is close to getting that chance.

It's been a long and difficult road for Johnson, but he came one step closer to achieving his dreams when he was drafted in the second round by the Anaheim Arsenal- an NBA development league affiliate of the Los Angeles Clippers, Atlanta Hawks and Orlando Magic.

"It has always been a goal of mine to play in the NBA," said Johnson. "To be able to support my family so they don't have to work anymore would be awesome."

Johnson played at three different colleges before he came to CSUSB.

He was a three-star recruit coming out of Los Angeles Southwest Community College and was heavily recruited by University of Cincinnati and University of Oregon.

He chose the University of Oregon but later had his scholarship taken away by head coach Ernie Kent.

"I didn't see eye to eye with coach Kent," said Johnson. Johnson needed somewhere to go. He found CSUSB.

Johnson came to the school with high expectations. However, all the Coyotes got when he arrived was a 300- pound center who needed to change his attitude. "I had a big ego when I came to Cal State University San Bernardino," said Johnson.

Luckily for him and CSUSB



Courtesy of NBAE/ Getty Images/ Juan Ocampo

Ivan Johnson, a former Coyote, had a big adjustment when he came to Cal State San Bernardino thanks to head coach Jeff Oliver.

head coach Jeff Oliver, Johnson changed his attitude and got into shape.

Johnson got his weight down to 250 pounds and at 6'8" he was a dominant force in the middle for the Coyotes.

"Coach Oliver is the best coach I've ever had," said Johnson. "He put me in my place."

Johnson averaged a team-leading 15.5 points and 4.7 rebounds a game last year and he really turned it on when the team went to the playoffs where he averaged 20.5 points a game.

"Going far in the playoffs last year was a good experience. It showed me what I'm capable of," Johnson said.

Now he really has the chance to show himself what he's capable of. He is one phone call away from getting the coveted contract from a NBA team.

It was a big jump for Johnson to go from playing at CSUSB to playing with NBA talent every day.

"The biggest adjustment is

playing with big dudes," Johnson said. "I just have to stay relaxed and be confident."

Johnson is enjoying a very good rookie season in the Development League, which acts as a minor league to the NBA.

"Coach expects me to get a double-double every game," said Johnson.

Excellence on and off the field

Coyotes senior David Martin has a passion for baseball, but maintains his focus on schoolwork

FeShea McLaughlin
Staff Writer

CCAA Honors.
Leader of the Pack Award.
Student-Athlete.

Senior right-handed pitcher David Martin proves he is far from a "dumb jock."

Sometime between practice, travel games and expectations to win, Martin has managed to excel with the Coyotes baseball team; and make the Dean's list in the process.

Martin is a business major at CSUSB, with a concentration in accounting. This is his second season with the Coyotes, after transferring from Sierra College in Northern California.

Martin was offered academic scholarships to Cornell, UCLA, UC Davis, and UC Irvine. He rejected those offers for the love of baseball. Martin said the best coaching was at CSUSB. The best opportunities for athletic success were with the Coyotes.

In the spring of 2007, Martin received honors from the CCAA and CSUSB for his exceptional academic success. Martin appreciated the acknowledgment of his academic efforts.

"It felt good. Moments in

which you get recognized for academic achievements make all the hours of studying worth it."

His contributions on the field and in the classroom have presented challenges.

Martin said, "The biggest challenge I have faced is time. As a full time student athlete, studying

time is scarce. The last thing you feel like doing after a long practice is going home and studying, but it's something that must be done."

Maintaining academic and athletic expectations requires discipline. Martin attributes his focus to his future.

"I stay focused by reminding myself that academics are more important than baseball. I have goals outside of baseball in which the only way to meet them is by being solid within the classroom."

Baseball has helped Martin prepare for the bigger picture. With the future and graduation quickly approaching Martin has begun to absorb the lessons that baseball has provided for him.

"It has taught me that you

can't allow the past or the future to affect the present. In baseball, it is easy to dwell on a past failure or look forward to your next opponent. These are distractions that

can affect your present performance. Since the present is the only thing I can control, I shouldn't allow things outside my control to affect my performance."

As a senior, each time Martin approaches the mound he realizes it could be the last time.

It might be the last pitch, or the last moment to shine for his team.

His baseball career is a priority; he has dedicated himself to four years.

"Before each time I play, I think that this could be the last time. I take this approach because it forces me to play like this particular game as if it will be the last time I ever play. This makes me concentrate and most importantly enjoy each time I take the field."

His goal for the season is to help his team win conference.

Martin has set his sights for the Coyote's

to make their mark in the regional tournament.

After his academic and baseball career has ended, Martin is planning on becoming a certified accountant.

His long-term goal is to work for the FBI

to investigate financial fraud.

The Coyotes next home game will be held on March 13 and 14 against Cal Poly Pomona.

Both games will start at 3 p.m.

The game will be held at the Coyotes home turf, Arrowhead Credit Union

Park. The Coyotes had faced the Broncos earlier in the season, where they won 5-4.

Following that week they will face Grand Canyon at home on March 21 at 6p.m. and the 22 at noon.

FeShea McLaughlin/
Chronicle

David Martin is the Coyotes right-handed pitcher. Martin had been offered academic scholarships from Cornell, UCLA, UC Davis and UC Irvine but refused the offers to play at CSUSB.

Bouncing back for West Regional

Khorry Lewis
Staff Writer

CSUSB women's basketball has had a great regular season, nailing down their best regular season in 10 years with a victory over Sonoma State.

The Coyotes will finish in second causing them to be in 2nd place right behind Chico State in the California Collegiate Athletic Association (CCAA).

The Coyotes' 21-6 record is the program's best since 1997-98 when they finished 23-6 and fought their way into the NCAA West Regional Semi-Finals.

In the CCAA tournament, the Coyotes took a loss to seventh-seeded Cal Poly Pomona 57-52.

"The loss just gave us a heads up on how not to play when we get to the West Region. We have to tighten up our game faces and play harder than we did in this loss because even though we lost, we still get to come back and play."

"If we lose in the West Region we go home and stay home. I want to keep winning," said junior forward Rachel Johnson.

The Coyotes have had some star studded performances this year from players stepping up and filling the roles of others when needed.

Senior center Vanessa Wilt was named the CCAA's most valuable player.

Her season is not finished. Now there is a target on her back as an offensive threat.

The 6 foot 1 inch post player from Hesperia, Calif., was voted the most valuable player in the CCAA by the conference's 11 coaches.

"Vanessa is the best post player that I have ever played against and is the most skilled post player in the conference," said Johnson.

Teammate Shanae Blake, a junior guard from Chaffey College and the teams number two scorer, was selected to the all-CCAA second team.

Blake will forgo her last year of eligibility since she is on track to graduate in the spring.

Wilt has led the conference in numerous statistical categories including scoring, rebounding, field goal percentage and blocked shots.

She was selected as the Wilson/CCAA Player of the Week five times this year and earned double-doubles (double digits in two statistical categories) in 25 of the teams 28 games.

Wilt has also blocked 69 shots in 28 games this season alone, breaking the team's all-time single season record of 59 set by Celeste Gude in the 1994-95 season.

Wilt also has broken the all time rebound record of 336 by grabbing 380 of her own this season.

The Coyotes have the weapons and the tools to go into battle. They now prepare for the NCAA West Regional Tournament.

Regional pairings will be announced Sunday night.